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CHRIS KELLER/DN

Matt Hilker contemplates his art's arrangement for the "Down 'n' Dirty" art show before its premier today from 7-10 p.m. at Gomez Art Supply, 1028 O St.

Local artists get graphic with alternative art show

By NANCY PETITTO / DN Staff Writer
April 02, 2004

The chance to get down 'n' dirty is tonight only.

Gomez Art Supply, 1028 O St., will be hosting "Down 'n' Dirty," an art

show for local artists.

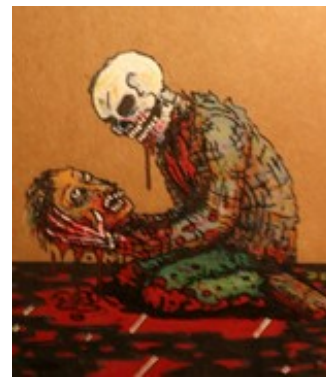
Roxanne Jackson, a graduate student in fine arts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is one of the many artists submitting work for the show.

"This show has a wide variety of people participating," Jackson said. "There will be work from graduate students, undergraduates and a lot that aren't in school and just do art in their garages."

Jackson will be showing ceramic sculptures that may be disturbing or grotesque to some viewers, she said.

One piece involves three forms that hang from the low 7-foot ceilings of the Gomez Art Supply basement.

"The three sculptures are like big hunks of meat that hang with human faces," Jackson said. "They show a meat carcass with a human form, human legs and deer hooves."



CHRIS KELLER/DN
Jeff Sayer's "You Are Ugly."

Another piece by Jackson will be a ceramic deer sculpture that lays on the floor.

"The antlers are made out of resin to give it a translucent look. There is a human face with the tongue hanging out, and exposed intestines."

For the most part, the other art that will be displayed fits under disturbing imagery as well, Jackson said.

"This is to bring art to people on different levels," she said. "Ultimately and ideally we want the people that go on all gallery walks to come."



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CHRIS KELLER/DN
Dirt floors and brick walls add to the ambience of the basement of Gomez Art Supply, 1028 O St.

With this in-your-face style of art, it may be difficult to bring in that different clientele, she said.

Tim Voss is another one of the many artists who will be displaying his work.

This show will be the first time Voss has displayed his art for others to see.

"I've given away my art and shown it at my house and in school functions, but I've never actually been in an independent show," Voss said.

Voss has been doing paintings on randomly found objects for the past 10 years.

"I use random stuff found around the house and see what I can do with it," he said.

One of his eight pieces is a large painting of a zombie on a pegboard that he found lying around his home.

Voss said his work fits into the theme of the show.

"There's some spray paint mixed with acrylics and chalk; it's all bigger stuff that I've done," he said. "It's a messy, lowbrow type of art."

Along with the alternative form of art that can be seen, the atmosphere is fitting.

"It's a really alternative space," Jackson said. "There are dirt floors and spider webs covering the ceiling. The art is all basically crammed into this space."

When it comes down to it, this art show isn't solely about the strange pieces that will be seen.

"I see it as a show of art for the people, by the people," Jackson said.

"It's all inclusive, not elitist. It's people making art for affordable prices in a common community."

"Down 'n' Dirty" can be viewed tonight from 7 to 10. ■

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